United Nations A/69/944–S/2015/456

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
18 June 2015

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 32
Prevention of armed conflict

Security Council
Seventieth year

Letter dated 17 June 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued on 15 June 2015 on the occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of the first North-South Summit and the publication of the June 15 Joint Declaration (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 32, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ja** Song Nam
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

15-10073 (E) 240615

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 17 June 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to bring about landmark turn in improving inter-Korean relations

Pyongyang, 15 June (KCNA) — On Monday, 15 June 2015, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) released a statement to mark the fifteenth anniversary of the North-South Summit, the first of its kind in the history of national division, and the publication of the June 15 Joint Declaration.

Leader Kim Jong Il provided for the Pyongyang summit and adopted the June 15 Joint Declaration, true to the noble intention of President Kim Il Sung who dedicated his life to the cause of national reunification. It was an historic event, which brought about a turning point in improving north-south relations and achieving national reunification, the statement noted, and continued:

The publication of the June 15 Joint Declaration made it possible for the north and the south of Korea to defuse the distrust and confrontation which had lasted for more than half of a century and to greet a new era advancing towards reconciliation, unity and reunification through the concerted efforts of Koreans.

Had north-south relations made steady advances along the way indicated by the June 15 Joint Declaration, eye-opening changes and successes would have been achieved in the drive for national reunification, the desire of the Korean nation.

However, north-south relations were brought back to the era of confrontation of the past, owing to the despicable moves of the Lee Myung Bak conservative group, which totally denied the north-south joint declarations, and that catastrophe has currently reached a grave phase.

Upon authorization, the DPRK Government in its statement clarified the following stand, prompted by the will to save north-south relations from a serious crisis and to bring about a landmark turn in national reconciliation and unity.

1. It is necessary to have a firm stand to improve north-south relations and solve the reunification issue independently through the concerted efforts of the Korean nation.

It is the basic spirit of the June 15 Joint Declaration to solve issues related to inter-Korean relations and the matter of the country's reunification independently through the concerted efforts of the Korean nation responsible for it.

The north and the south should settle all issues arising with regard to improving inter-Korean relations and achieving reunification in line with the interests and desire of the nation with strong national self-respect.

The south Korean authorities should stop soliciting "international cooperation" to hurt their fellow countrymen in the north by relying on outside forces and not leaving the national issue to their tender mercy.

They should come out for improving inter-Korean relations and solving the reunification issue through the concerted efforts of Koreans.

2. The south Korean authorities should not seek the "unification of social systems", inciting distrust and confrontation between the north and the south.

Since differing ideologies and social systems have existed in the north and the south for the past seven decades, any attempt to achieve reunification under one social system would bring nothing but confrontation and war.

The north and the south recognized the common points in the north-proposed federation of lower stage and the south-proposed confederation, in the June 15 Joint Declaration, and agreed to work for reunification in that direction.

The south Korean authorities should clearly understand that the coexistence and co-prosperity of the north and the south, irrespective of ideology and social systems, is the most reasonable and realistic way for national reunification.

3. The south Korean authorities should stop north-targeted war exercises in collusion with the U.S.

The south Korean authorities staged ceaseless war rehearsals against the north, such as Key Resolve and Foal Eagle joint military exercises in league with the U.S., chilling the desire of all Koreans for reunification and scuppering the golden chances for improving inter-Korean relations.

Inter-Korean relations can never improve, nor can the Korean peninsula get rid of the danger of a nuclear war, as long as those military threats and provocations persist.

The south Korean authorities should halt such dangerous acts as leaving the life and safety of Koreans exposed to the war shambles of aggressors as a shock brigade in carrying out the U.S. strategy for dominating the Asia-Pacific region.

There is no need for them to feel any uneasiness and fear of the DPRK's self-defensive deterrence for protecting the dignity, stability and peace of the nation, but they should discontinue acts of treachery against it.

They should put a definite end to all military drills with the U.S. and come out for defending peace and stability on the Korean peninsula through the concerted efforts of the Korean nation.

4. It is necessary to create a climate for mending north-south relations.

Slandering each other is a venomous practice fostering distrust and hatred towards fellow countrymen and such a practice, if unchecked, may lead to physical conflict and war.

The south Korean authorities should not just pay lip service to "confidence-building" and "improvement of relations" but stop all provocations rattling the nerves of the DPRK and slandering it.

The south Korean authorities should boldly remove the legal and institutional barriers blocking north-south contact, visits, exchange and cooperation and create an environment favourable to repairing relations.

5. The north and the south should take practical measures to implement the historic north-south joint declarations.

The June 15 Joint Declaration and the October 4 Declaration are valuable agreements made at the summits of the north and the south for the improvement of

relations and co-prosperity, and solemn promises were made by the north and the south authorities to the nation.

If the north-south joint declarations should be denied and their implementation suspended because of regime changes, no issue can be settled between the north and the south in the future.

The south Korean authorities should not just pay lip service to respect for the June 15 Joint Declaration and the October 4 Declaration but prove it in practice.

The south Korean authorities should bear in mind that they are now standing at a crossroads; either they join hands with the north to repair inter-Korean relations or they will meet the same miserable end as did their predecessors while standing in confrontation with the north to the last.

Consistent is the stand of the DPRK to pave a wide avenue to independent reunification by bringing about a great turn in north-south relations.